SITE CLEARANCE VERIFICATION PROCEDURE APPLICATION (SC-APP) DNR/OFFICE OF CONSERVATION

(rev 7/11) ENGINEERING DIVISION

PART I GENERAL INFORMATION					
pplicant/ Operator Name Organization ID Application Date					
Contact Person within Applicant's Organization	nt Phone Number				
Applicant Address (Street Address or P.O. Box, City, State & Zip)		,			
Consultant Name (if applicable)					
Contact Person within Consultant's Organization Consultant Phone Number () -					
Consultant Address (Street Address or P.O. Box, City, State & Zip)		,			
Field Name			Field Code		
Parish Name			Parish Code		
PART II TRAWLING - INFORMATION & STATEMENTS (Must be complete	ed if trawlin	ig is propo	osed for SC verification)		
		8 1 1	,		
Initial each box below to signify that the following documentation is enclosed and/or attached.					
A description of the navigation equipment utilized to ensure correct position information.					
A detailed description of the trawling procedures to be conducted.					
A plat or plats which depict the well/structure locations included in the application along with the radius of investigation for each location and the grid lines to be trawled to ensure 100% coverage of each area. For restricted waterways, the location of nearby land is to be clearly shown on the plats. In cases where a request is made to exclude a portion of the required area/radius of investigation, the wells/infrastructure which necessitates the request is to be shown on the plat(s).					
Initial each box below to signify that the following statements are true and correct with respect to the proposed trawling operations.					
I have read, understand and will comply with all Site Clearance Requirements for trawling as contained in LAC 43:XI.311.E, general instructions included with this application and the Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.					
If a sea turtle is taken while trawling, he will be resuscitated according to guidelines for any captured turtle as described in the ESA (Endangered Species Act) regulations at 50CFR223.206(d)(1) and released. The species of any taken Sea Turtle will be identified and its condition reported within the verification report.					
Any debris that should fall from a torn net will be recovered and disposed in a proper and legal manner on land. This includes any debris that might fall outside the assigned radius					
PART III DIVING - INFORMATION & STATEMENTS (Must be completed if diving is proposed for SC verification)					
Initial each box below to signify that the following documentation is enclosed and/or attached.					
A detailed explanation of why diving is being proposed instead of trawling.					
A description of the methods which will be used to locate the center of each abandoned well or structure.					
A detailed description of the methods which will be used to ensure 100% coverage of each area. If a chain or cable is proposed for use, include a statement that indicates the chain or cable is of sufficient weight to remain on bottom.					
A plat or plats which depict the well/structure locations included in the application along with the radius of investigation for each location and the method of investigation to ensure 100% coverage of each area. The plat(s) should also clearly demonstrate all site conditions and remaining infrastructure (including flowlines) which necessitate the requested alternate site clearance method. For dead-end slips, the location of nearby land is to be clearly shown on the plats. In cases where a request is made to exclude a portion of the required area/radius of investigation, the wells/infrastructure which necessitates the request is to be clearly shown on the plat(s).					
Initial each box below to signify that the following statements are true and correct with respect to the proposed diving operations.					
Any obstruction encountered will be marked, removed, and properly disposed of on land.					

PART IV OTHER METHODS - INFORMATION & STATEMENTS (Must be completed if other methods are proposed for SC verification)					
Initial each box below to signify that the following documentation is enclosed and/or attached.					
A detailed explanation of why the method is being proposed instead of trawling.					
A detailed description of the procedures to be conducted including equipment specifications; investigation and assessment of anomalies; and methods for removal of any obstructions identified.					
A detailed description of the methods which will be used to ensure 100% coverage of each area.					
A plat or plats which depict the well/structure locations included in the application along with the radius of investigation for each location; spacing of grid lines or tripods; and the method of investigation to ensure 100% coverage of each area. The plat(s) should also clearly demonstrate all site conditions and remaining infrastructure (including flowlines) which necessitate the requested alternate site clearance method. For dead-end slips, the location of nearby land is to be clearly shown on the plats. In cases where a request is made to exclude a portion of the required area/radius of investigation, the wells/infrastructure which necessitates the request is to be clearly shown on the plat(s).					
A description of deliverables which will be provided to document that each area/radius of investigation is clear.					
Initial each box below to signify that the following statements are true and correct with respect to the proposed operations.					
Any obstruction encountered will be marked, removed, and properly disposed of on land.					
PART V STRUCTURE REMOVAL INFORMATION (Must be completed if structures are removed prior SC verification)					
Depth of Removal for Legs, Casing, & Pilings (ft) Explosives used for removal? If explosives are used, briefly describe purpose: YES NO					
Initial each box below to signify that the following documentation is enclosed and/or attached. A detailed description of the structure(s) to be removed prior to site clearance verification including the configuration, size, number and type of legs, casings,					
and pilings)					
A schematic or photograph of the structure to be removed prior to site clearance verification.					
PART VI FLOWLINES/PIPELINES INFORMATION					
Initial each box below to signify that the following documentation is enclosed and/or attached.					
A detailed description of all flowlines and/or pipelines in each area of investigation including the line status (active/inactive), type and ownership.					
A statement regarding the planned abandonment action (removal or burial) for each inactive line.					
A detailed justification to allow any exposed inactive line to remain in place including a description of conditions which prevent safe removal or burial and a letter of concurrence from the Department of Natural Resources – Office of Coastal Management and/or the owner/operator of any active line interfering with safe removal/burial.					
Initial each box below to signify that the following statements are true and correct with respect to pipelines/flowlines in the area/radius of investigation.					
Except for inactive lines that are intertwined with active lines or cases where the removal or burial of an inactive line creates a safety hazard, all inactive flowlines and/or pipelines located within the area/radius of investigation will be buried at least three (3) feet below mudline or removed.					
PART VII ADDITIONAL GENERAL REQUIREMENTS					
Initial each box below to signify that the following documentation is enclosed and/or attached.					
Application fee of \$600 per application. (Payable to the Office of Conservation)					
One original and one copy of this completed application form.					
Initial each box below to signify that the following statements are true and correct with respect to the proposed trawling operations.					
I have read, understand and will comply with all Site Clearance Requirements as contained in LAC 43:XI.311.E and the general instructions included with this application					

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PART IX AFFIDAVIT				
STATE OF PARISH (COUNTY) OF				
I hereby certify that all information contained in this application is, to the best of my knowledge, true and correct and that I have authority to make such application.				
Applicant Representative (print) Signature of Applicant Representative Date				
Sworn to and subscribed before me this day of in the year (Affix Seal)				

General Requirements

All abandoned well and platform locations on state water bottoms in the Gulf of Mexico and adjacent bays and inlets (Coastal Zone) shall be cleared of all related obstructions by the owner of such facilities. All owners shall comply with the site clearance and verification requirements and procedures. The regulations regarding site clearance verification are found in LAC 43:XI.311.E.

Each application may contain ten (10) wells or platforms or a combination of both located in the same field. A "Wildcat" well may be added to the group providing it is in the same parish and the number of total sites does not exceed (10) ten. Once a 'Site Clearance Application' has been approved by the Office of Conservation, no additional wells or structures may be added to the application.

Wells included in a 'Site Clearance (SC) Application' which have not been plugged and abandoned at the time of the application must be P&A within one year of SC application approval or the well will be removed from the SC application.

Site clearance verification shall be completed as specified in the approved application within ninety (90) days of completion of well, platform or structure removal/abandonment operations, unless otherwise approved by the Commissioner of Conservation.

If any excavation or fill will be required for site clearance operations, including that which may be necessary for access and/or pipeline removal and/or burial, a Coastal Use Permit application must be filed with the Office of Coastal Management. Additionally, if pipeline installation was authorized by the Office of Coastal Management, a Coastal Use Permit application will need to be submitted to the Office of Coastal Management for the removal of the pipelines or for permission to leave them in place.

The Louisiana Underground Utilities and Facilities Damage Prevention Law requires notification of demolition or excavation activities at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to beginning same. Notification should be made to LA One Call at www.laonecall.com or by calling 811.

Site Clearance Verification Method Requirements

Trawling is the preferred method of site clearance verification. The commissioner will consider diving or sonar in lieu of trawling when any of the following conditions are adequately demonstrated to exist in the verification area: (1) more than 50% of the verification area falls within an active oyster lease; (2) the verification area is associated with a dry hole; (3) the verification area has an average water depth of three (3) feet or less; (4) the verification area is located at the end of a dead-end slip; or (5) the verification area contains active wells or structures or pipelines or flowlines which are greater than 8 inches in diameter or include above grade obstructions (valves) and the resulting trawling restriction zone(s) exceeds 50% of the total required verification area and includes the center portion of the verification area. Supporting documentation and plats of area conditions must be submitted with the application for all site clearance methods other than trawling.

Site Clearance Verification Area Requirements

All abandoned well and platform locations must be verified clear of all obstructions present as a result of oil and gas activities. For areas with more than one facility to be abandoned, with overlapping site clearance areas, the operator/owner may submit a site clearance application for the composite area.

Structure Type	Open Water - Territorial Seas*	Open Water - Coastal Waters	Restricted Waterway** (canal, bayou, river)
Exploratory, Dry Hole, Delineation, or Other Wells That Have Not Been Produced for Purposes Other Than Production Tests	300-foot radius circle centered on the well	300-foot radius circle centered on the well	100-foot maximum linear distance upstream and downstream from the location of the well
Platforms***	1,320-foot radius circle centered on the platform geometric center	400-foot radius circle centered on the platform geometric center	400-foot maximum linear distance upstream and downstream from the location of the platform
Single or Multi-Well Caisson or Templet	400-foot radius circle centered on the well	400-foot radius circle centered on the well	100-foot maximum linear distance upstream and downstream from the location of the well

Territorial Seas - Waters from the most southerly land mass at that longitude outward to the three mile limit.

Site Clearance Verification Process

Step 1 – Submit an original 'SITE CLEARANCE VERIFICATION PROCEDURE APPLICATION' (SC-APP) and one (1) copy.

The notarized application should be submitted along with all required documents and the \$600 application fee to the following address:

OFFICE OF CONSERVATION ENGINEERING DIVISION P.O. BOX 94275 BATON ROUGE, LA 70804-9275

- Step 2 Once written application approval is received, conduct approved site clearance verification operations.
- Step 3 Submit the 'SITE CLEARANCE VERIFICATION REPORT' within ninety (90) days of completion of site clearance verification operations.

^{**} Restricted Waterway – A canal, bayou, river or other similar restricted waterway.

*** Platform - A structure that has significant facilities supporting exploration and production operations.

Trawling

Trawling requirements are discussed in the regulations and can be found under Title 43.XI. Chapter 3 Underwater Obstructions

Trawling must comply with the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries(attached). Changes are being made now to include (1) Trawls shall have a minimum stretched mesh size of 4 inches at the cod end and 2 inches elsewhere. (2) Contractors shall report to NOAA Fisheries in compliance with 50 CFR 223.206 all takes and identify the species of any sea turtles incidentally captured, resuscitated, released, or killed. Report shall include animal's condition. Since a sea turtle can be recovered post-mordem, the description should include the animal's condition (i.e. rigor mortis, decaying, cracked carapace/shell, etc.) (3) All captured sea turtles shall be resuscitated and released as per the guidelines described in the Endangered Species Act (ESA) according to federal regulations at 50 CFR 223.206(d)(1).

SEA TURTLE LIFE HISTORY FORM

APPENDIX B: RESUSCITATION PROCEDURES

If you catch a sea turtle that is active, it should be returned to the water over the aft portion of the vessel, preferably in a non-fishing area, when gear is not in use.

If a turtle appears to be comatose (unconscious), then you should attempt to revive it before putting it back into the water. Use the following method of resuscitation:

Place the turtle on its plastron (lower shell) and elevate the hindquarters several inches to permit the lungs to drain off water.

A comatose but live sea turtle may, in some cases, exhibit absolutely no movement or signs of life (no muscle reflexes). In other cases, an unconscious turtle may show some evidence of eyelid or tail movement when touched. Sea turtles may take some time to revive. Do not give up too quickly. Regulations allow a fisherman without a permit to keep a turtle on deck up to 24 hours. Even turtles successfully resuscitated benefit from being held on deck as long as possible, to allow toxins which built up as a result of stress to dissipate from the body. Try to keep the skin, and especially the eyes moist while the turtle is on deck. A turtle that has shown no sign of life after 24 hours on deck (held in the shade where further damage to it won't occur) may safely be considered dead.

If the turtle cannot be revived before returning to port and it cannot be salvaged, it should be returned to the water, preferably in a non-fishing area. Mark the turtle (spray paint it or tag it) before returning it to the water.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

AND

THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Department of Natural Resources enter into an Agreement, by the institution of this Memorandum of Understanding, regarding the use of trawls during closed seasons for the purpose of Site Clearance Certification of abandoned oil and gas locations. The purpose and intent of this Agreement is to allow the use of trawls to perform site clearance verification under the authority provided by a site clearance permit to be issued by the Department of Natural Resources in accordance with LSA-R.S. 30:4 and Administrative Procedure Act, LSA-R.S. 49:950 et seq. Contractors hired by companies holding valid site clearance permits will be allowed to use trawls during closed seasons provided that they adhere to the following stipulations as required by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries:

- No site clearance verification by trawling shall be conducted in state inside waters from May 1 until the opening of the spring inshore shrimp season within any shrimp management zone not open to shrimping each year.
- No site clearance verification by trawling shall be conducted in state inside waters from August 1 until the opening of the fall inshore shrimp season within any shrimp management zone not open to shrimping each year.
- 3. No site clearance verification activities by trawling shall be conducted from one-half hour after official sunset to one-half hour before official sunrise.
- 4. Each contractor-trawler conducting site clearance verification activities shall display on the top and sides of the vessel, the vessel registration or USCG documentation number preceded by the letters "SC". These letters and numbers shall be block letters with a minimum of twelve (12") inches in height and shall be in contrasting color to the vessel so that they may be easily read from the air or water.

GBVIBO sasily read from the air or water.

- 5. Each contractor-trawler conducting site clearance verification activities shall keep on board its vessel a copy of the site clearance permit issued by the Department of Natural Resources to the lessee (operator).
- 6. No trawling shall be permitted over oyster leases without prior approval from the lease holder.
- 7. No trawling over vegetated waterbottoms shall be allowed.
- 8. Contractors performing actual site clearance verification by trawling shall inform the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Division's nearest Regional Office no less than 48 hours prior to commencing such activities. This notification must be in the form of a FAX which will be signed by the Region Captain or his designee and returned to the contractor. Information contained in the FAX shall include vessel name, official number/LA number, color, size; permittee/contractor name, address, telephone number; site location number, block, latitude, longitude, X, Y; beginning date, ending date (see attached example).
- 9. The use of more than four trawls from any vessel is prohibited, however, there shall be no limitation on the size of trawls used for the purpose of site clearance.
- 10. Trawls shall have a minimum stretched mesh size of 4 inches at the cod end and 2 inches elsewhere. Trawl nets shall have a maximum stretched mesh size of 6 inches. The cod end should be attached to the net in a manner that allows the cod end mesh to stretch maximally, allowing shrimp and other bycatch to escape through the mesh.
- 11. Contractors shall report to NOAA Fisheries in compliance with 50 CFR 223.206 all takes and identify the species of any sea turtles incidentally captured, resuscitated, released, or killed. Report shall include animal's condition. Since a sea turtle can be recovered post-mortem, the description should include the animal's condition (i.e. rigor mortis, decaying, cracked carapace/shell, etc.)
- 12. All captured sea turtles shall be resuscitated and released as per the guidelines described in the Endangered Species Act (ESA) according to federal

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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING PAGE -3

- 13. Violation of any of these provisions, the provisions contained in the permit issued by the Department of Natural Resources or any violation of wildlife and fisheries laws, rules, or regulations not specifically waived by this Memorandum of Understanding shall be grounds for immediate revocation of the contractor's authority to conduct site clearance verification in state waters. Both the permittee and his contractor shall bear legal responsibility for any violations of the aforementioned requirements, both criminal and civil.
- 14. The Department of Natural Resources shall assign a Site Clearance No. to each application and provide the Enforcement Division of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries with a weekly docket summary and appropriate attachments identifying the permitted clearance sites.

The Department of Natural Resources shall inform all permit applicants of the stipulations provided for and contained within this Agreement. Both the permittee and his contractor shall be held accountable for any violations of those regulations contained in the site clearance permit or the provisions contained within this Memorandum of Understanding. By entering into this Agreement neither the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries nor the Department of Natural Resources accept any liability for the performance of either the permittee or his contractor.

Effective Date and Termination Consent

1. This agreement will be effective when signed and dated by the parties hereto and may be terminated at any time by mutual consent of the parties hereto or by either party after 60 days notice of intent to terminate.

Signed this <u>25th</u> day of <u>October</u>, 2005

signed this 3rd day of November, 2005

Dwight Landteneau, SECRETARY,

La. Dept. of Wildlife and

JAMES H. WELSH, COMMISSIONER,

Office of Conservation, La. Dept.

of Natural Resources

2005 8 1 VON

Fisheries

EXAMPLE

Company Name

February 1, 2005

MEMO: Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Attn: Captain Chad Manuel

Region 5

Ph: 337-491-2580 Fax: 337-491-2009

Ref: 05-02 Site Clearance Operation Information

A. Vessel Specifications

Name: Dusty Dawn

Official No: 685487

Color: White/Green

Size: 85 Ft.

B. Lessee/Operator

Name: ABC Oil Company

Address: Cut Off, LA 70345

Telepne Number:

C. Site Location

Site: Ship Shoal 66

Block: 2

Latitude: 28 51 56.024N

Longitude: 91 07 15.381W

X: 2067995.48

Y: 72394.16

D. Approximate Commencement

Date: 3/31/05

Approximate End

DAMOE OF CONCERNAL ACT

Date: 4/05/05

REGION	CONTACT	ADDRESS & TELEPHONE	PARISHES
ENFORCEMENT	CAPTAIN:	1401 Talton Street	Bienville
REGION I	DONNIE BATES	P O Box 915	Bossier
		Minden, LA 71055	Caddo
	2/		Claiborne
	ADMINISTRATIVE SPEC:	318/371-3050	DeSoto
*	MARY JANE NIXON		Red River
		318/371-3332 FAX	Webster
ENFORCEMENT	CAPTAIN:	368 Centurytel Drive	East Carroll
REGION II	ALAN BANKSTON	Monroe, LA 71203-8732	Jackson
	ALLAN DANKSTON	141011100, 1217 11203 0732	Lincoln
		318/362-3102	Morehouse
	ADMINISTRATIVE SPEC:	510/302-5102	Ouachita
	EMMA BRANDON	318/362-3273 FAX	Richland
	EMINIA BICANDON	516/302-32/3 FAX	Union
		1	West Carroll
ENFORCEMENT	CAPTAIN:	1995 Shreveport Highway	Avoyelles
REGION III	PETER OLIVER	Pineville, LA 71360	Grant
ICEGIOI III	TETER OLIVER	rinevine, LA 71300	Natchitoches
		318/487-5884	
i i	ADMINISTRATIVE SPEC:	318/487-3884	Rapides Sabine
		210/407 5/2/ FAW	Vernon
	CHRISTY ELLINGTON	318/487-5636 FAX	Winn
ENFORCEMENT	CAPTAIN:	P O Box 1640	
REGION IV	JOHN RHODES		Caldwell
REGION IV	JOHN RHODES	261 Wildlife & Fisheries Road	Catahoula
		Ferriday, LA 71334	Concordia
	A DAMANGED A TIME CORO	210/757 2072	Franklin
	ADMINISTRATIVE SPEC:	318/757-3072	Lasalle
	CINDY K. HARRIS	1	Madison
EN ISON CENTER IS		318/757-1568 FAX	Tensas
ENFORCEMENT	CAPTAIN:	1213 N. Lakeshore Drive	Beauregard
REGION V	JUBAL MARCEAUX	Lake Charles, LA 70601	Allen
			Evangeline
		337/491-2580 or 88	Calcasieu
4	ADMINISTRATIVE SPEC:		Cameron
,	CINDY PIPPIN	337/491-2971 FAX	Acadia
			Vermilion
			Jefferson Davis
ENFORCEMENT	CAPTAIN:	5652 Highway 182	St. Landry
REGION VI	LASTIE CORMIER	Opelousas, LA 70570	St. Martin
	1 100 to 100 to 100 to		Pointe Coupee
	V	337/948-0257	Lafayette
	ADMINISTRATIVE SPEC:	948-0259	Iberia
	TINA FAUL	948-0261	Iberville
		337/948-0293 FAX	West Baton Rouge
ENFORCEMENT	CAPTAIN:	P O Box 98000	Ascension
REGION VII	WAYNE BRESCHER	2000 Quail Drive (70808)	East Baton Rouge
		Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000	East Feliciana
			Livingston
		225/765-2999	St. Helena
	ADMINISTRATIVE SPEC:		St. Tammany
	RASHETTA WILLIAMS	225/763-5429 or 8/431-5429 FAX	Tangipahoa
	1 A1 41 A1		Washington
			West Feliciana
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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING PAGE -6

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ENFORCEMENT	CAPTAIN:	1600 Canal Street	Jefferson
REGION VIII	BRIAN CLARK	New Orleans, LA 70112-2855	Orleans
			Plaquemine
	ADMINISTRATIVE SPEC:	225 765-2441	St. Bernard
	SENNETTA BELL		St. Charles
*		225 763-5323 FAX	
ENFORCEMENT	CAPTAIN:	1102 Hwy. 3185	Assumption
REGION IX	SAMMY MARTIN	Thibodaux, LA 70301	Lafourche
			St. James
	06	985/447-0821	St. John
0	ADMINISTRATIVE SPEC:		St. Martin
	ELAINE MOORE	985/447-0824 FAX	St. Mary
		3	Terrebonne



BOBBY JINDAL GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana department of natural resources Office of Conservation

SCOTT A. ANGELLE
SECRETARY

JAMES H. WELSH
COMMISSIONER OF CONSERVATION

MEMORANDUM

July 25, 2011

And In

TO:

All Concerned

FROM:

James H. Welsh

Commissioner of Conservation

SUBJECT:

Alternate Site Clearance Verification Methods

Effective immediately, the use of divers or sonar in lieu of trawling for Site Clearance Verification Surveys conducted in accordance with LAC 43:IX.311.E.2.a will only be considered in the following situations:

- 1. When more than 50% of the area to be verified falls within an active oyster lease.
- 2. When the area to be verified is associated with a dry hole.
- 3. When the area to be verified has an average water depth of three (3) feet or less.
- 4. When the area to be verified is located at the end of a dead-end slip.
- 5. When the area to be verified contains an active well or structure; or active pipelines or flowlines which are greater than 8 inches in diameter or include above grade obstructions (valves) and the resulting trawling restriction zone(s) exceeds 50% of the total required verification area and includes the center portion of the verification area.

Supporting documentation and/or plats must be provided that clearly demonstrates current site conditions for situations (1), (3) and (4).

Provided Office of Conservation records reflect a dry hole status, no additional supporting documentation is required for situation (2).

Supporting documentation and/or plats must be provided that clearly demonstrates current site conditions for situation (5) including: the locations of remaining lines within the area to be verified; line status (active/inactive); line condition (buried/unburied); line size; line owner/operator; line construction date; and whether the portion of the line contains above-grade obstructions or valves.

Site clearance verification areas which include trawling restrictions over less than 50% of the area or where trawling restrictions do not include the center of the verification area must supplement the trawling activities with alternative verification methods.

